2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

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up at Saiyun by the Quaiti and Kathiri States, was provided and was controlled by one of Hugh Boustead's young men. Diesel oil was essential for the pumps and it had to be brought from the coast at Mukalla by lorry, and so it was that the camel men, however disgruntled they might be, must not be allowed to damage the roads or impede the oil lorries.

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The pump scheme was supplemented by grain stores set up in the main towns and larger villages and regularly inspected to ensure that the grain had been properly rotated. At each harvest new grain was bought and the old grain sold, thus keeping the stocks fresh. Mercifully all went well with the rainfall during my tour of duty and we did not have to put our anti-famine measures to the test.

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I cannot leave the subject of development without making a brief reference to the political side. In most States in the Western area of the Protectorate the old form of complete autocratic government has given place to government by the Ruler with the advice of a Council, and in some States the next stage of development of Councils with executive powers has been reached, while in Lahej there is the further refinement of a Legislative Council. Generally speaking these Western innovations where they exist are only in the kindergarten stage and the Ruler is still the central figure upon whose personality the Government of the State really depends. For instance, there is one important State which has no Council at all, but a very able Ruler who governs justly and firmly and whose finances are in a sound condition; while another and larger State has the whole façade of modern governmental institutions but a Ruler whose real interests are elsewhere and his people do not fare so well and the State's finances would mystify the most astute of accountants. The personality of the Ruler is still of paramount importance, but change is coming swiftly.

In the Eastern area the main progress has been made in the centre, where in the Quaiti and Kathiri States administrations have been firmly established and even Town Councils are functioning with reasonable efficiency. These States have been lucky in having Rulers who had the good sense to pay heed to their able advisers. In the two outlying States, the Wahidi

6:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden M M1

tary arrangements, was begun under the aegis of the Aden Settlement in 1943, and this policy is being continued by Government.

During the war and for a period afterwards, for a variety of reasons (principally large military constructional works, increase in the strength of the Garrison, and famine in the hinterland), the floating population increased considerably, and in the absence of proper accommodation were perforce allowed to construct and live in *kutcha* huts in specially demarcated areas.

While control is exercised as far as is possible to prevent epidemics these are slum areas, which can only be cleared by Government building several hundred working-class houses at a sub-economic rent; areas for this purpose are being reserved under the Town Planning Scheme.

The Town Planning Scheme is gradually taking shape, but in the absence of adequate trained staff, the work can only make slow progress.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND RELIEF

There are no social insurance schemes in Aden Colony.

A Government social welfare organisation is being built up gradually, but has been handicapped through lack of staff. A Poor Relief Committee, financed partly through public subscriptions, but notably through Government which contributes Rs. 50,000 per annum, dispenses relief to the aged and infirm. A voluntary committee also collects materials and funds, especially for children's welfare.

There are no social welfare officers or probation officers at present; the appointment of a social welfare officer has been approved, but he has not yet been appointed. An Assistant Welfare Officer who was trained in the United Kingdom arrived in December, 1947, and has taken up his duties.

Chapter 8: Legislation

Twenty-seven Ordinances were passed during the year 1948, of which the following are the more important:

Income Tax (Relief Amendment) Ordinance, 1948, No. 3, which gives family relief in respect of one wife and not more than four children. The loss involved by this concession has been provided against by increasing taxation in the higher grades.

Prisons (Amendment) Ordinance, 1948, No. 4, which carries out the recommendation of a locally appointed Prison Reform Committee by reducing the number of prison offences which are punishable with whipping.

Widows' and Orphans' Pensions (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, 1948, No. 19, which provides *inter alia* that a certain class of employee of the Aden Port Trust shall be eligible to contribute.

Aden Protectorate Levies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1948, No. 20, which provides for the grant of pensions to native officers and enlisted clerks.

Appeals to the Court of Appeal Ordinance, 1948, No. 22, which

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden MM1

563 fallen below Indians in numbers and influence. There has thus been a temptation for the less responsible sections of the Arab press to transfer to Indians the animosity previously stirred up against the Jews as an alien and wealthy race, extorting inflated profits from the poor ignorant Arab.

648 The feeling of solidarity between Arabs and Pakistanis has been demonstrated on the visits of H.M. Pakistani ships of war. At the same time it must be placed on record that British and Indian ships have been given most cordial receptions.

641 Some constitutional advance was made by the reduction of the property qualifications for electors to the Township Authority of Fortress, and the introduction of an income qualification, which increased the number of voters from 1,600 to 5,000. The next election will be held in March, 1951.

647 Social work has been helped by the formation of a Social Welfare
● 746 Advisory Council, which includes unofficial representatives of all races, and a Labour Advisory Board, also with substantial unofficial representation, has been set up.

362 The shortage of housing remains one of the most important problems facing Government. Some 280 working-class houses have been built by Government at Sheikh Othman, but these replace insanitary mat houses which were destroyed as the new buildings became available, and do not provide additional accommodation; it is estimated that at least 2,000 new houses are needed. The Government is examining new methods of cheap and rapid construction, and seeking means of financing a substantial housing programme from Government or private funds.

643 His Excellency Sir Reginald Champion, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., proceeded on leave prior to retirement in October, 1950. He served in Aden from 1928 to 1934; he was appointed Chief Secretary in 1942 and Governor in 1944.

000 Visitors to Aden included Mr. Bevin and Mr. Creech Jones, who called briefly in transit, and Sir T. Lloyd, Permanent Under Secretary of State who made a comprehensive tour of the Colony and Protectorate.

DEVELOPMENT

652 The finances of the Colony continue in a healthy condition and revenue remains buoyant. The financial year 1949-50 ended with a deficit of Rs. 10 lakhs compared with an estimated deficit of nearly Rs. 40 lakhs. Expenditure exceeded the estimate by over Rs. 6 lakhs and revenue was up by over Rs. 36 lakhs. Unfortunately it was not possible to carry out the full programme under the development plan, and expenditure on capital works fell short of that programme by Rs. 22 lakhs. The excess of expenditure over the estimate was due mainly to extraordinary expenditure on revision of salaries and rehabilitation loans, all of which were paid during 1949-50. On the other hand, the Colony's surplus balances were written down by over Rs. 20 lakhs owing to the sharp fall in the value of investments at the end of the

342 (c) Single and two-storied buildings constructed of rubble stone jointed with mud (clay) mortar. Quite a number of these are also owner-occupied.

(d) Single-storied "mud brick" (clay) bricks sun dried only buildings. These are situated mostly in Sheikh Othman and many are owner-occupied.

[132] All four types have flat timber roofs covered with lime concrete or rammed clay. Pitched roofs are rare, as the average annual rainfall is less than two inches, and the roofs are used for sleeping purposes during the hot season.

There is a fifth type constructed of reeds, palm, leaves, branches of trees, corrugated iron, and known as "*kutcha* dwellings." (*Kutcha* is a Hindustani word meaning "of poor construction".)

362 A slum clearance and rehousing scheme, whereby these *kutcha* huts were to be gradually replaced by mud brick dwellings with proper sanitary arrangements, was begun under the aegis of the Aden Settlement in 1943, and this policy is being continued by Government. Up to the end of 1950, 360 of these dwellings had been completed, and it is planned to begin building a further 80 in 1951.

During the war, and for a period afterwards, due to a variety of reasons (principally large military constructional works, increase in strength of the Garrison, and famine in the hinterland), the floating population increased considerably and, in the absence of proper accommodation, were perforce allowed to construct and live in *kutcha* huts in specially demarcated areas. While control is exercised as far as is possible to prevent epidemics, these areas can only be termed slum areas, and the solution would appear to be the construction by Government of several hundreds of working-class houses, and areas for this purpose are being reserved under the Town Planning Scheme.

511 362 The standard of living in these areas is very low indeed, but even this is apparently higher than in the hinterland, as no effort is being made by these people to return home, and any attempt at coercion with mass removal of the hovels would undoubtedly create serious difficulties.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND RELIEF

657 ●746 The Labour and Social Welfare Department began work in January, 1950, under the direction of the District Commissioner. The activities of the new department were confined largely to a study of conditions, and the presentation to Government of some reports and recommendations. The staff consists of a Labour and Welfare Officer, an Arab Assistant Welfare Officer (trained in the U.K.) and one clerk.

The services and activities usually associated with a Welfare Department are in the main not yet in existence in Aden. There are a certain number of voluntary organisations which carry out excellent work, the majority of these depending on European workers and officials.

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden mm1

The only relief organisation is the Aden Central Poor Relief Fund which administers a Government grant of Rs. 50,000 and a small income from investments.

It must be noted that the population of Aden is largely immigrant; the workpeople come to the port to work for eighteen months or two years, and then return to their homes. This circumstance adds to the difficulty of organising and financing social services. The gravest social problem in Aden is the lack of housing. For most of the population the family has only one room or a shack, whilst many male workers live in the streets.

In August the newly-formed Social Welfare Advisory Council began its activities.

In June a census of the blind was attempted. In all 263 blind persons were interviewed by a medical specialist and the Welfare Officer, and were registered. Few applicants were rejected as not being blind. Some criticism has been voiced that this register is still incomplete: some immigrant blind children were noted as having failed to report. A committee, which has been appointed to report and recommend to Government on blind welfare, held its first meeting on 4th January, 1951.

Considerable success was attained during the year in the use of probation for juvenile offenders, and it is now rare for any other method of correction to be tried in the case of Aden boys who are brought before the Courts for the first time. For homeless Yemeni boys who get into trouble probation is not suitable and a satisfactory method of treatment has yet to be found. At the end of 1950 it was decided to experiment with probation for adults, and two cases were accepted in December. The Assistant Welfare Officer is the Probation Officer.

Just before his retirement Sir Reginald Champion donated Rs. 5,308 to form the nucleus of a fund for the creation of the first Community Centre in Aden. The Labour and Welfare Department gratefully accepted this gift and plans are being made with the advice of the Welfare Advisory Council. Every opportunity has been taken by means of lectures, films, pamphlets, etc., to arouse an interest in welfare work, particularly with an aim to encourage the formation of voluntary service groups.

Juvenile Probation 1950

Number on probation 1/1/1950	3
Total new cases during the year	25
Average number of probationers per month	12
Number on probation at 31/12/1950 ..	10
Probation completed satisfactorily during 1950..	15 cases
Probation order revoked	3 „
Percentage of successes	83⅓ per cent

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7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden MM1

746 *Aden Central Poor Relief Fund*

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Total paid out in 1950	Rs. 48,652
Total persons assisted (not counting dependants)	833
Average monthly relief per recipient (not counting dependants)	Rs. 5
Number of dependants per recipient ..	5
New recipients admitted during the year ..	73
Applicants on waiting list at 31/12/1950 ..	594

747 *Voluntary Societies and Services in Aden* (not including private charities or Church Missions) :

Girl Guides' Association.
Ladies' Child Welfare Committee.
King Edward VII Dispensary.
Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.
Aden Central Poor Relief Committee.
St. John Ambulance Association.
Aden Sports Association.
Aden Boy Scouts' Association.
Aden Women's Voluntary Service.
Students Aid Society.
Sheikh Othman Children's Milk Scheme.

Chapter 8 : Legislation

1949

671 During the year the Revised Edition of the Laws was brought into force. It contains the Ordinances in force on 1st January, 1946, the delay in publication was due to the delay in printing and the time taken in indexing.

During the year 17 Ordinances were enacted of which the following were the more important :

651 The Income Tax (Amendment) Ordinance, which provides for increased rates of super-tax.

671 The Income Tax (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, which amongst numerous amendments, places an obligation on a person within the assessable limits to submit an income tax return whether specially required to do so or not. It further enables the Income Tax Officer to obtain information from a bank as to whether a person has an account there, it requires the keeping of proper books by persons engaged in business, and it allows the Income Tax Officer to specify the language in which books shall be kept.

167 The Immigration (Amendment) Ordinance, the principal amendment
671 in which enables the Governor in Council to make rules prescribing the conditions under which persons may be permitted to enter the